

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A content-providing system comprising a terminal for utilizing contents stored in advance and a server connected to said terminal through a network and used for managing said contents comprising:

said terminal including

a storage means for storing unit configured to store said contents stored in advance,
the contents stored in advance including a plurality of predetermined content;

a request means for requesting unit configured to transmit a request, which requests
utilization of a predetermined contents content by transmitting a content [[IDs]] ID
identifying said predetermined contents content among a plurality of said contents stored in
said storage means and by transmitting an electronic points purchase request, the electronic
points purchase request being for purchasing said predetermined contents content, to said
server;

a reception means for receiving unit configured to receive both a table associating
said content IDs with an electronic point amount, and a utilization condition each transmitted
by said server in response to said request by said request means unit, the table including the
content ID and an associated predetermined cost of the predetermined content said utilization
condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points
purchase request;

a utilization-condition storage means for storing unit configured to store said
utilization condition and said table, which [[are]] is received by said reception means unit,
said utilization-condition storage means unit being further a means for updating unit
configured to update said table on the basis of a content ID and an update of said electronic
point amount, which are received from said server, the update including a respective content

ID and an associated current cost of a respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID, the associated current cost replacing a previous cost of the respective predetermined content; and

a utilization execution means for executing unit configured to execute utilization of said predetermined ~~contents~~ content on the basis of said ~~utilization condition and~~ said table, which ~~have~~ has been stored in said utilization-condition storage ~~means~~ unit;

said server including

a utilization-condition transmission means for transmitting unit configured to transmit said table associating said content ~~[[IDs]]~~ ID with said associated predetermined cost of the predetermined content ~~electronic point amount and for transmitting said utilization condition,~~ to said terminal;

a sales-history information storage means for storing unit configured to store sales-history information of said predetermined ~~contents~~ content pertaining to a range as information including said content ~~[[IDs]]~~ ID identifying said predetermined ~~contents~~ content, utilization of which is requested by said request ~~means~~ unit employed in said terminal;

a collection means for collecting unit configured to collect sales records of ~~contents~~ content utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said sales-history information storage ~~means~~ unit; and

a processing execution means for carrying unit configured to carry out processing based on said sales records, wherein said utilization-condition transmission ~~means~~ unit, employed in said server~~[[,]]~~ is further a ~~means for transmitting unit configured to transmit the update to the terminal which includes the respective content ID and the associated current cost of the respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID the content ID and the update of said electronic point amount.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An information-processing apparatus connected to a terminal for using ~~[[a]]~~ content through a network, said information-processing apparatus comprising:

~~a transmission means for transmitting unit~~ unit configured to transmit a table ~~associating which includes a content [[IDs]] ID of a predetermined content with [[an]] an associated predetermined electronic point amount cost of the predetermined content and for transmitting a utilization condition~~, to said terminal, ~~said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on a points purchase request~~;

~~a sales-history information storage means for storing unit~~ unit configured to store sales-history information of predetermined ~~contents~~ content pertaining to a range received from said terminal as information including said content ~~[[IDs]] ID~~ identifying said predetermined ~~contents~~ content;

~~a collection means for collecting unit~~ unit configured to collect sales records of ~~contents~~ content utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said sales-history information storage ~~means~~ unit; and

~~a processing execution means for carrying~~ unit configured to carry out processing based on said sales records,

wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit is further a ~~means for transmitting unit~~ configured to transmit an update, which includes a respective content ID and an associated current of said electronic point amount cost of a respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID, the associated current cost replacing a previous cost of the respective predetermined content, to said terminal.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said sales-history information stored in said sales-history information storage ~~means~~ unit further includes an apparatus ID used for identifying said terminal.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 2, said information-processing apparatus further comprising:

an acquisition ~~means for acquiring~~ unit configured to acquire execution-history information representing a history of executions of utilizations of ~~said contents~~ content stored in said terminal; and

a utilization-history information storage ~~means for storing~~ unit configured to store utilization-history information including ~~said~~ content ID received from said server and said execution-history information acquired by said acquisition ~~means~~ unit,

wherein said collection ~~means~~ unit further collects utilization records of ~~contents~~ content utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 4, said information-processing apparatus further comprising:

a favorite extraction ~~means for extracting~~ unit configured to extract information of ~~contents~~ content, each serving as a favorite with a user using said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in said utilization-history information storage ~~means~~ unit and information on favorites stored in said terminal,

wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit transmits information extracted by said favorite extraction ~~means~~ unit as said information of contents each serving as a favorite with said user using said terminal to said terminal.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An information-processing method executed by an information-processing apparatus having a processor and connected to a terminal for using [[a]] content through a network, said information-processing method comprising:

a first transmission step of transmitting, using the information-processing apparatus, a ~~table associating content IDs of contents with an electronic point amount and transmitting a utilization condition,~~ to said terminal, the table including a content ID which identifies a predetermined content and an associated predetermined cost of the predetermined content ~~said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on a points purchase request;~~

a sales-history information storage control step of controlling, using the information-processing apparatus, an operation to store sales-history information of predetermined ~~contents~~ content pertaining to a range received from said terminal as information including said content ~~[[IDs]] ID identifying said predetermined contents~~ content;

a collection step of collecting sales records of ~~contents~~ content utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said sales-history information storage control step;

a processing execution step of carrying out processing based on said sales records;
and

a second transmission step of transmitting, using the information-processing apparatus, an update which includes a respective content ID and an update of said associated current electronic point count cost of a respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID, the associated current cost replacing a previous cost of the respective predetermined content to said terminal in a process to update said ~~electronic point amount of~~ said table.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a program for controlling an information-processing apparatus, which is connected to a terminal for using ~~[[a]]~~ content through a network, that when executed by a computer causes the computer to carry out processing comprising:

a first transmission step of transmitting a ~~table-associating content IDs of contents with an electronic point amount and transmitting a utilization condition;~~ to said terminal, the table including a content ID which identifies a predetermined content and an associated predetermined cost of the predetermined content ~~said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on a points purchase request;~~

a sales-history information storage control step of controlling an operation to store sales-history information of predetermined ~~contents~~ content pertaining to a range received from said terminal as information including said content ~~[[IDs]]~~ ID identifying said predetermined ~~contents~~ content;

a collection step of collecting sales records of ~~contents~~ content utilized by said terminal on the basis of said sales-history information stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said sales-history information storage control step;

a processing execution step of carrying out processing based on said sales records;
and

a second transmission step of transmitting an update which includes a respective content ID and an update of said associated current electronic point count cost of a respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID, the associated current cost replacing a previous cost of the respective predetermined content to said terminal in a process to update ~~said electronic point amount of said table.~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An information-processing apparatus connected by a network to a server for providing contents stored in advance, said information-processing apparatus comprising:

~~a storage means for storing~~ unit configured to store said contents in advance, ~~the contents stored in advance including a plurality of predetermined content;~~

~~a request means for requesting~~ unit configured to transmit a request, which requests utilization of ~~a predetermined contents content~~ by transmitting ~~a content~~ [[IDs]] ID identifying said predetermined ~~contents content~~ among a plurality of said contents stored in said ~~storage means~~ and by transmitting, to said server, an electronic ~~points~~ purchase request, the electronic ~~points~~ purchase request being for purchasing said predetermined ~~contents content~~;

~~a reception means for receiving~~ unit configured to receive ~~both a table associating said content IDs with an electronic point amount and a utilization condition each transmitted by said server in response to said request by said request means unit, the table including the content ID and an associated predetermined cost of the predetermined content said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points purchase request;~~

~~a utilization-condition storage means for storing~~ unit configured to store said ~~utilization condition and said table, which~~ [[are]] is received by said reception means unit; and

~~a utilization execution means for executing~~ unit configured to execute utilization of said predetermined ~~contents content~~ on the basis of said ~~utilization condition and said table, which~~ [[are]] is stored in said utilization-condition storage ~~means~~ unit,

wherein, the utilization-condition storage unit is configured to update the table when [[a]] an update which includes a respective content ID and an update of said associated

~~current electronic point amount cost of a respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID, the associated current cost replacing a previous cost of the respective predetermined content are is received from said server, said utilization condition storage means updates said table on the basis of said received content ID and said received update of said electronic point amount.~~

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 8, said information-processing apparatus further comprising:

~~an ID storage means for storing~~ unit configured to store an apparatus ID used for identifying said information-processing apparatus,

wherein said request ~~means~~ unit transmits said apparatus ID from said ID storage ~~means~~ unit along with said content ~~[[IDs]] ID of said predetermined contents content~~ pertaining to a range to be purchased and said ~~electronic point amount~~ associated cost for purchasing said predetermined ~~contents content~~ in order to make said request for utilization of said predetermined ~~contents content~~ pertaining to said range.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 8, said information-processing apparatus further comprising:

~~an~~ execution-history information storage ~~means for storing~~ unit configured to store execution-history information representing a history of executions of utilizations of said predetermined ~~contents content~~; and

~~a~~ execution-history information transmission ~~means for transmitting~~ unit configured to transmit said execution-history information stored in said execution-history information storage ~~means~~ unit to said server.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein[[:]]

said reception ~~means~~ unit further receives information on favorite ~~contents~~ content of a user using said information-processing apparatus from said server as information based on said execution-history information; and

said utilization execution ~~means~~ unit executes utilizations of said predetermined ~~contents~~ content on the basis of said information on favorite ~~contents~~ content.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information-processing method executed by an information-processing apparatus having a processor and connected by a network to a server for providing contents stored in advance, said information-processing method comprising:

a request step of transmitting a request, ~~requesting~~, using the information-processing apparatus, which requests utilization of a predetermined contents content by transmitting a content ~~[[IDs]] ID~~ identifying said predetermined ~~contents~~ content among a plurality of said contents stored in advance and by transmitting an electronic ~~points~~ purchase request, the electronic ~~points~~ purchase request being for purchasing said predetermined ~~contents~~ content, to said server;

a reception step of receiving, using the information-processing apparatus, ~~both~~ a table associating said content IDs with an electronic point amount and a utilization condition each transmitted by said server in response to said request in processing carried out at said request step, the table including the content ID and an associated predetermined cost of the predetermined content ~~said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points purchase request~~;

a utilization-condition storage control step of controlling, using the information-processing apparatus, an operation to store said ~~utilization condition and said table~~, which

[[are]] is received in processing carried out at said reception step, into a utilization-condition storage unit;

a utilization execution step of executing, using the information-processing apparatus, utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said ~~utilization condition and said~~ table, which [[are]] is stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said utilization-condition storage control step; and

an updating step of updating, using the information-processing apparatus, said table stored in said utilization-condition storage unit on the basis of ~~a content ID and an update of said electronic point amount when said content ID and said update are received from said server,~~ the update including a respective content ID and an associated current cost of a respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID, the associated current cost replacing a previous cost of the respective predetermined content.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a program for controlling an information-processing apparatus, which is connected to a server for providing contents stored in advance through a network, that when executed by a computer causes the computer to carry out processing comprising:

a request step of transmitting a request, requesting which requests utilization of a predetermined ~~contents~~ content by transmitting a content [[IDs]] ID identifying said predetermined ~~contents~~ content among a plurality of said contents stored in advance and by transmitting, to said server, an electronic ~~points~~ purchase request, ~~the electronic points~~ for purchasing said predetermined ~~contents~~ content;

a reception step of receiving ~~both a table associating said content IDs with an electronic point amount and a utilization condition each~~ transmitted by said server in response to said request in processing carried out at said request step, the table including the

content ID and an associated predetermined cost of the predetermined content ~~said utilization condition including an available electronic point amount determined based on the points purchase request;~~

a utilization-condition storage control step of controlling an operation to store said ~~utilization condition and said~~ table, which ~~[[are]]~~ is received in processing carried out at said reception step, into a utilization-condition storage unit;

a utilization execution step of executing utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said ~~utilization condition and said~~ table, which ~~[[are]]~~ is stored in said operation controlled by processing carried out at said utilization-condition storage control step; and

an updating step of updating said table stored in said utilization-condition storage unit on the basis of ~~a content ID and an update of said electronic point amount when said content ID and said update are received from said server,~~ the update including a respective content ID and an associated current cost of a respective predetermined content corresponding to the respective content ID, the associated current cost replacing a previous cost of the respective predetermined content.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): A content-providing system comprising a terminal for utilizing contents and a server connected to said terminal through a network and used for managing said contents wherein:

said terminal includes:

storage means for storing said contents in advance;

ID storage means for storing an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing a content;

request means for making a request for utilization of predetermined contents specified among said contents stored in said storage means by transmission of content IDs identifying said predetermined contents and said apparatus ID or said program ID to said server;

reception means for receiving a utilization condition transmitted by said server at said request made by said request means; and

utilization execution means for executing utilization of said predetermined contents on the basis of said utilization condition by execution of said application program, whereas

said server includes:

utilization-condition transmission means for transmitting a utilization condition for utilizing said predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said request means employed in said terminal, to said terminal;

utilization-history information storage means for storing information including said content IDs and said apparatus ID or said program ID, which are received from said request means employed in said terminal, as utilization-history information of said predetermined contents;

collection means for collecting utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in said utilization-history information storage means; and

processing execution means for carrying out processing based on said utilization records.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein said storage means of said terminal can be mounted and demounted on and from said terminal.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein:
said terminal further comprises execution-history information storage means for storing execution-history information representing a history of executions of said application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

said server further comprises acquisition means for acquiring said execution-history information stored in said execution-history storage means employed in said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs and said apparatus ID or said program ID, which are received from said request means employed in said terminal, as well as said execution-history information acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program and execution records of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein:
said server further comprises acquisition means for acquiring information other than said content IDs as information on said predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said request means employed in said terminal, from said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said content IDs and said apparatus ID or said program ID, which are received from said request means employed in said terminal, as well as said information acquired by said acquisition means as said information other than said content IDs; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 17 wherein said information other than said content IDs is a selling price of said contents or a sale date of said contents.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein:
said terminal further comprises moving/copying means for moving or copying said contents stored in said storage means or said utilization condition received by said reception means to another terminal;

said server further comprises acquisition means for acquiring an apparatus ID of said other terminal, to which said contents or said utilization condition is moved or copied by said moving/copying means employed in said terminal, from said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said request means employed in said terminal and said apparatus ID received from said request means employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 19 wherein:
said acquisition means employed in said server further acquires time information, at which said moving/copying means employed in said terminal moves or copies said contents or said utilization condition to said other terminal, from said terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said request means employed in said terminal, said apparatus ID received from said request means employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means and said time information acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 19 wherein:

said acquisition means employed in said server further acquires an apparatus ID of another terminal, which has moved contents or a utilization condition to said terminal, from said other terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said request means employed in said terminal and said apparatus ID received from said request means employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 21 wherein:

said acquisition means employed in said server further acquires time information, at which said contents or said utilization condition were moved or copied to said terminal by said other terminal, from said other terminal;

said utilization-history information storage means employed in said server is used for storing said utilization-history information including said content IDs received from said request means employed in said terminal, said apparatus ID received from said request means employed in said terminal or said apparatus ID acquired by said acquisition means and said time information acquired by said acquisition means; and

said collection means employed in said server collects utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal on the basis of said utilization-history information.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The content-providing system according to claim 14 wherein:

said server further comprises detection means for detecting illegal utilization of said contents in said terminal; and

said utilization-condition transmission means limits transmission of said utilization condition to said terminal, which has carried out said detected illegal utilization.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): An information-processing apparatus connected to a terminal for utilizing contents through a network, said information-processing apparatus comprising:

utilization-condition transmission means for transmitting a utilization condition for utilizing particular contents selected among said contents as predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said terminal, to said terminal;

utilization-history information storage means for storing utilization-history information received from said terminal as information including content IDs of said predetermined contents and an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

collection means for collecting utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in said utilization-history information storage means; and

processing execution means for carrying out processing based on said utilization records.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): An information-processing method adopted by an information-processing apparatus connected to a terminal for utilizing contents through a network, said information-processing method comprising:

a utilization-condition transmission step of transmitting a utilization condition for utilizing particular contents selected among said contents as predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said terminal, to said terminal;

a utilization-history information storage step of storing utilization-history information received from said terminal as information including content IDs of said predetermined contents and an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

a collection step of collecting utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in processing carried out at said utilization-history information storage step; and

a processing execution step of carrying out processing based on said utilization records.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): A program to be executed by a computer as a program for controlling an information-processing apparatus, which is connected to a terminal for utilizing contents through a network, to carry out processing comprising:

a utilization-condition transmission control step of controlling an operation to transmit a utilization condition for utilizing particular contents selected among said contents as predetermined contents, utilization of which is requested by said terminal, to said terminal;

a utilization-history information storage control step of controlling an operation to store utilization-history information received from said terminal as information including content IDs of said predetermined contents and an apparatus ID of said terminal or a program ID of an application program used for utilizing said predetermined contents;

a collection control step of controlling an operation to collect utilization records of contents utilized by said terminal or utilized by execution of said application program on the basis of said utilization-history information stored in processing carried out at said utilization-history information storage control step; and

a processing execution control step of controlling an operation to carry out processing based on said utilization records.

Claim 27 (New): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the electronic purchase request is further a request to purchase electronic points and the associated cost of the predetermined content is based on an associated electronic point value.

Claim 28 (New): The information-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reception unit receives a utilization condition transmitted by the server in response to the request by the request means, the utilization condition including an available

Application No. 10/518,797
Reply to Office Action of October 29, 2009

electronic credit balance determined based on the electronic purchase request, the utilization-condition storage unit stores the utilization condition, and the utilization-condition transmission unit transmits the utilization condition to the terminal.